

EXETER-WEST GREENWICH September 23, 2008

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

MINUTES

The Exeter-West Greenwich Regional School District School Committee held a meeting on this date at 7:00 p.m. in the Jr. – Sr. High School Library. Members present were Susan DeSack, Chairperson; Teri Cicero, Vice Chairperson; Gregory Coutcher, Clerk; Frank Maher; Mary Walsh; William Munroe; and Robert Bollengier. Superintendent Thomas J. Geismar; Director of Administration Robert V. Ross; and Director of Curriculum Nancy I. Daley were present. Director of Special Services Carmella Farrar and Student Member Katherine Matook were absent.

ORDER – Chair DeSack called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all and Robert Ross read the District Mission Statement.

OPEN FORUM – None

PRESENTATION – Student Member Report – Principal Boulé informed Chair DeSack that Student Member Matook was unable to attend this evening's meeting due to a change in her track schedule. Principal Boulé said that she has Ms. Matook's written report to submit to the Committee. Chair DeSack requested that the report be provided to

members in their October 14, 2008 packets.

Member Bollengier moved that the Committee will pass item V. A. at the present time, on the basis that until such time of the arrival of the Teachers' Association President, and the Committee will pick it up at a later time. Seconded by Clerk Coutcher. Voted 7 – 0 in favor.

ROUTINE ITEMS – CONSENT AGENDA – Superintendent Geismar gave an overview of the Consent Agenda and introduced the two candidates brought forward this evening for hire.

In response to Member Bollengier's request for clarification, Superintendent Geismar confirmed that Donna Stomberg is present in the audience and Maryhelen Chiulli has in fact resigned from her EWG teaching position.

Member Bollengier moved to accept the consent agenda. Seconded by Member Maher. Voted 7 – 0 in favor.

The following items were approved:

A. Approval of Minutes – Regular Minutes of September 10, 2008

B. Personnel Items

1. Appointments

a. Morgan Main as 1.0 FTE Behavior Specialist, (Counsel-94) at Metcalf School, Annual Salary \$31,827; effective September 29, 2008

b. Donna Stomberg as .5 FTE Teacher Assistant/Recess Aide at Metcalf School, Step 1, Grade 3, Annual Salary \$8,524.80; effective retroactive to September 12, 2008

2. Leaves of Absence

3. Resignations – (As Recommended by the Superintendent, with Regret) – (ENCLOSED)

a. Letter of Resignation from Maryhelen Chiulli from her position as .5 FTE (Job Share), Jr. High School Science Teacher, effective September 11, 2008

4. Grievances

5. Recalls

6. Non-Renewals

7. Sabbaticals

C. Bills – In the amount of \$178,669.35

D. Home School Approvals

End Consent Agenda

RECOGNITION/ACHIEVEMENTS – Ratification of the Teachers’ CBA –
Chair DeSack thanked the negotiation teams for their hard work and diligence. She expressed her opinion that the finished document is good for everyone involved. Teachers’ Association President Maureen Pontarelli also expressed thanks to the negotiation teams. She acknowledged the School Committee’s commitment to the children of Exeter-West Greenwich and said that she would be remiss if she did not also thank the Superintendent. She said that he brought décor, his knowledge, and enormous patience to the process.

The 2007 – 2008 and 2008 – 2011 Collective Bargaining Agreements
were signed by Chair DeSack and TA President Maureen Pontarelli.

CORRESPONDENCE – (ENCLOSED) – (1)September 10, 2008 Student Member Report; (2) August 27, 2008 – September 15, 2008-EWGRSD Discipline Report; (3) August 27, 2008 – September 15, 2008-EWG Sr. High School Suspension Report; (4) September 24, 2008 memorandum from Superintendent Geismar to School Committee Regarding 07/08 NECAP Science Testing Results

MONTHLY SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT(S) - Transportation Subcommittee Report – Member Maher reported that he has made contact with and is waiting for information from a professor from the University of Rhode Island regarding

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transportation consultant services in Rhode Island. Member Maher requested that this item carryover to the next regular meeting agenda at which time he will have a more conclusive report to bring to the Committee. Member Bollengier said that he has been in contact with an individual with the Department of Transportation who will provide assistance through models that can be used for the District's problem to reroute in the most effective way. He suggested that perhaps First Student might use the models to supplement what they presently use to arrange bus routes. Member Bollengier said that further information will be forthcoming within one month.

NEW BUSINESS –NSBA/NAAN Representative – In response to Superintendent Geismar's request to select a School Committee contact representative for National School Boards Association National Affiliate Program, Chair DeSack advised that in the past the contact person has always been the Chairperson.

High School New Graduation Requirements Letter to RIDE – Chair DeSack brought members' attention to the draft letter enclosed in their supplemental packets. She said that Superintendent Geismar and Principal Boulé composed the letter and are requesting to send it to the R.I. Department of Education. Superintendent Geismar explained that the letter asks RIDE for definition of issues and requests that the Board of Regents consider delaying the

implementation of the new regulations until the class of 2013. He explained that the District informed the Class of 2012 about the graduation requirements last spring and this fall, prior to the new regulations being passed on September 3, 2008. Principal Boulé briefly restated Superintendent Geismar's explanation for issuing the letter and requested that the entire Committee sign the letter.

Member Bollengier moved to approve the issuance of the letter as set out in the draft copy contained in the supplemental packets, but amended to include an addendum that the signatures affixed to the letter to be signed by either Superintendent Geismar or Chairperson DeSack are the intended signatures of the affirming members of the EWG School Committee. Member Walsh seconded. Voted 6 – 1 in favor. Member Munroe voted no.

Chair DeSack clarified that since Member Munroe voted no, his signature will be omitted from the letter.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS –Town of Exeter-Request for Reimbursement
– Chair DeSack reminded members that at the last meeting Director of Administration Robert Ross was asked to send a letter to the Town of Exeter. To date, a response has not been received from the Town of Exeter. This item will carryover to the next regular meeting agenda.

Capital project Update – Chair DeSack suggested that members may want to visit Metcalf School to see the new gymnasium floor.

Member Munroe reminded Chair DeSack that at the last meeting he had requested information regarding where documents pertaining to Capital Project repairs will reside once the repairs are complete. Superintendent Geismar said that the documents will reside in the District and copies will also reside with the architect of record.

REPORTS/COMMENTS –

IMPORTANT DATES AND MEETINGS – Tuesday, October 14, 2008-School Committee Meeting; Tuesday, October 28, 2008-School Committee Meeting

EXECUTIVE SESSION – RIGL 42-46-4 AND RIGL 42-46-5 – None

ADJOURNMENT – Member Bollengier moved to adjourn at 7:27 p.m. Seconded by Vice Chair Cicero. Voted 7 – 0 in favor. Meeting adjourned 7:27 p.m.

ROBIN CERIO

CLERK